

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all previously submitted claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A modular construction, in particular a pond construction or other garden construction, wherein the construction is supported in the subsoil, comprising at least two tubes having substantially hollow, open ends that project into the subsoil, and wherein screw thread-shaped flanges are provided on the tubes, which support the tubes in the subsoil, at least two coupling pieces which are each axially freely pivotably supported on a second end of the respective tubes, and a girder attached to the coupling pieces.

2. (Previously Presented) A modular construction according to claim 1, further comprising a foil and a clamping section, by means of which the foil is clamped on the girder.

3. (Previously Presented) A modular construction according to claim 1 wherein the construction is a pier construction.

4. (Previously Presented) A modular construction according to claim 1, wherein the construction is a pergola construction.

5. (Currently Amended) A modular construction system comprising at least two tubes, each having a first, substantially hollow, open end, wherein screw thread-shaped flanges are provided on the tubes, at least two coupling pieces which fit on second ends of the tubes that are axially freely pivotably supported on the second ends during construction, and a girder for attaching to the coupling pieces.

6. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5, wherein the tubes, the coupling pieces and the girder are substantially comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of steel and plastic.

7. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5, wherein the tubes are provided with an engaging element near the second ends for cooperation with a driving element for exerting a turning moment on the tubes.

8. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5 wherein cutting sections have been formed on the substantially hollow ends of the tubes.

9. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5 wherein the construction system is provided with a clamping section for clamping a foil between the girder and the clamping section.

10. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 9, wherein the girder is provided with a flange for supporting a pond edge.

11. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 10, wherein the flange is bent obliquely upwards with respect to the ground level, so that it allows the ground level to continue to above the water level of a pond.

12. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5 wherein the tubes are provided with attachment means for attaching sheet elements and/or retaining walls.

13. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 5 wherein the girder is formed in a shape selected from the group consisting of a plate or tube.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for building up a modular construction, in particular pond constructions or other garden constructions, comprising the steps of

rotating at least two tubes into the subsoil, wherein each of said tubes is provided with a substantially hollow open end on the side rotated into the subsoil,

and wherein screw thread-shaped flanges have been provided on the tubes for supporting in the subsoil,

setting the height of the tubes by axially pivoting them,

sliding coupling pieces on second ends provided on each of the tubes, wherein, during construction, the coupling pieces are axially freely pivotably supported on the second ends,

setting the axial orientation of the coupling pieces by pivoting them relative to the respective tubes, and

attaching a girder to the coupling pieces.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for building up a modular construction according to claim 14, wherein the method further comprises the step of locking the coupling pieces in an axial direction with respect to the tubes after setting the height of the tubes and setting the axial orientation of the coupling pieces.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for building a pond construction according to the method of claim 14 comprising the further steps of digging a pond basin,

laying a foil in the pond basin, and

attaching the foil to the girder.

17. (Previously Presented) A modular construction system according to claim 9 wherein the clamping section is provided with a flange for supporting a pond edge.